THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) There is a proposal to issue Multi-purpose national Identity Cards to all the citizens of the country.

(b) and (c) The Government has decided to undertake a Pilot Project on an experimental basis in a few districts/sub-districts of 13 States and Union Territories. The Pilot Project is to be launched in April, 2003 and expected to be completed within one year.

Water to All by 2010

*313. SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Rural Development would involve important personalities such as winner of Megsaysay Award and NGOs in implementation of Water to All by 2010 programme;

(b) if so, whether Government have identified such personalities, to implement the programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) to (c) While there is no programme titled "Water to All by 2010", as per the National Agenda for Governance of the Government of India, it is proposed to cover all rural habitations with drinking water supply facilities by the year 2004. Government of India have launched in 1999 sector reforms in the Rural Water Supply for institutionalizing community participation through demand-responsive and decentralized approaches in 67 identified Districts in 26 States. This initiative has been expended as 'Swajaldhara' where the Gram Panchayats, Block Panchayats and even beneficiary groups can plan, design and implement rural water supply schemes. The entire rural community, including NGOs and prominent personalities/experts, are to be involved in the implementation of the reforms.